



POSTERS

ADULT SEX RATIO AND MORPH DIVERSITY IN A COLOUR POLYMORPHIC LIZARD

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According to theory, intrasexual competition may drive morph diversity in species with population polymorphisms. Eastern, central and western lineages of *Podarcis muralis* often show population colour polymorphisms, encompassing white, orange and mixed white-orange morphs. Moreover, in many western populations, yellow and yellow-orange animals may also occur. Thus, populations differ according to morph composition, and morph frequencies. In a sample including 110 populations from the Eastern Pyrenees, we tested for a relationship exists between population morph diversity (estimated using Shannon's diversity index) and adult sex ratio. Results show that this relationship is not significant when both sexes are pooled to estimate morph frequencies (Spearman correlation: $r_s = 0.13$, $P = 0.18$). However, this relationship is significant and positive when only males are considered ($r_s = 0.26$, $P = 0.005$), but not for females ($r_s = -0.06$, $P = 0.56$). These results agree with the hypothesis that morph diversity is driven in part by male-male competition. Although the evidence for alternative morph-specific male reproductive strategies in *P. muralis* is inconclusive, our results highlight the relevance of population social and sexual selection for population colour morph composition.